

LESSON 1: THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD
from Genesis 1:1-2:3

In the beginning, there was nothing except for God.

On the first day, God said, "Let there be light!" and there was light.

He said, "What I have made is good."

On the second day, God said, "Let there be sky and water!" and there was the sky and water.

He said, "What I have made is good."

On the third day, God said, "Let there be dry land and plants!" and there was dry land and plants of all kinds.

He said, "What I have made is good."

On the fourth day, God said, "Let there be lights in the sky!" and there was the sun, the moon, and stars.

He said, "What I have made is good."

On the fifth day, God said, "Let there be animals in the waters and the sky!" and there were fish and birds.

He said, "What I have made is good."

On the sixth day, God said, "Let there be animals on the land! Let Us make people who are like Us!" and there were animals of all kinds, and a man and woman, Adam and Eve, to take care of the plants, animals, and the whole earth.

He said, "What I have made is very good."

On the seventh day, God rested from His work.

1. What was here before the beginning?

2. How many days did God work to make everything?

3. What did God say at the end of each day?

4. God said, "Let Us make people who are like Us!" Who is the "Us" that He is talking about?

5. What did God do on the seventh day?

6. List three things that you are glad that God made. "I am glad God made..."

EXTRA QUESTIONS

7. After God made people, He said something a little bit different than He said on the other five days. How did He describe His work on the sixth day?

8. How do you feel knowing that God describes people (including you!) in this way?

9. The Orthodox Study Bible uses the words, "Let Us make man in Our *image*..." The word *image* is the same as *icon*. God made people to be icons of the Holy Trinity. You are an icon! The people you don't like very much are icons, too.

How do you treat icons made of wood and paint?

Would you ever hurt an icon made of wood and paint? _____

How should we treat people, who are icons of the Holy Trinity?

10. Whenever we say the Creed, we remember today's lesson. Finish this part of the Creed:

"I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, _____ of
_____ and _____, and of
_____ things _____ and _____."

Say the next part of the Creed. Listen for the part that talks about the Lord Jesus Christ that relates to today's lesson.